

**Green, LindaE**

---

**From:** Grace I Dixon <gid213@nyu.edu>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 5, 2018 4:08 PM  
**To:** FOIA HQ  
**Cc:** Seth Borenstein  
**Subject:** Freedom of Information Act Request

From: **Grace Dixon**  
New York University  
3850 N. Hermitage  
Chicago, IL 60613  
[Gid213@nyu.edu](mailto:Gid213@nyu.edu)  
773-552-4722

**To: Records, FOIA, and Privacy Branch**

Office of Environmental Information  
Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Freedom of Information Officer,

Pursuant to the Illinois Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. 552 and the implementing regulations of the Environmental Protection Agency, 40 C.F.R. Part 2, I, Grace Dixon, make the following request for records:

- All calendars or calendar entries for EPA Director Scott Pruitt from March 1, 2017 to the date that this search is conducted, including any calendars maintained on behalf of Director Pruitt. This request includes an account of the attendees at each meeting, an overview of the topics discussed and any possible attachments. The EPA should also provide any calendar entries for meeting which occur at a later date.

I am only required to pay for the direct cost of duplication after the first 100 pages. As a college student, I ask you to please waive any applicable fees. In the following eight paragraphs I will underscore my reasons in response to your guidelines on fee requests. I understand that is a separate process than my FOIA request. So I ask that you initiate both processes simultaneously. In other words, please start processing the FOIA request itself as you are doing the fee-waiver request. In the event that you disallow my fee-waiver request, I will not pay the price of the FOIA request after the first 100 pages.

Through this FOIA request I am gathering vital information on the activities of the taxpayer-funded EPA that is important to the public's understanding of how its federal Environmental Protection Agency spends public money and whether it is doing so in compliance with federal laws.

Now, let me specifically address the six hurdles used by the FOIA for fee-waiver determination by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and other federal agencies.

1. The subject matter of the requested records must specifically concern identifiable operations or activities of the government. Calendar entries of meetings are easily locatable operation associated with the position of EPA administrator and constitute a significant portion of the agency's activities.
2. The disclosure should be "likely to contribute" to an understanding of government operations or activities. Understanding the day-to-day activities of the EPA Administrator will allow taxpayers to better understand the priorities of the agency as well as the partnerships it is seeking.
3. The disclosure must contribute to the understanding of the public at large, as opposed to the requester or a narrow segment of interested persons. My interests in the schedule of EPA Administrator are shared by a wide swath of the American public and will be made public to the American public with this in mind.
4. The disclosure must contribute "significantly" to the public understanding of government operations. Knowing the calendar entries and meeting schedules of the EPA administrator will allow the public to understand whose opinions are being heard and which issues are being prioritized by the agency.
5. The disclosure will not serve any commercial interest of me as an individual. I am not currently employed by any media or political employers who will compensate me for obtaining such information. In fact, this entire process will cost me my time, while providing no monetary or commercial benefit.
6. The public interest in disclosure far outweighs commercial interest. First, as shown above there is massive amount of public interest in the official business conducted by EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt. Second, as shown above, there is little if any commercial interest.

If my request is denied in whole or part, I ask that you justify all deletions by reference to specific exemptions of the Act and release all segregable portions of otherwise exempt material. I reserve the right to appeal.

Please contact me by telephone, rather than by mail if you have questions regarding this request. My phone number is 773-552-4722. My e-mail is [gid213@nyu.edu](mailto:gid213@nyu.edu). I look forward to your reply within 20 business days, as the statute requires.

Thank you in advance for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Grace Dixon  
New York University